## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINGST 04493 062110Z ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /043 W

-----017593 062115Z/65

R 032112Z AUG 77 ZFG
FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6572
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY NASSAU
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

CONFIDENTIAL KINGSTON 4493

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PDEV, ELAB, JM

SUBJECT: ANOTHER OUTBURST BY NORTH COAST JOBLESS

**REF: KINGSTON 3777** 

1. ON JULY 27, THE NORTH COAST VILLAGE OF ORACABESSA, 80 MILES EAST OF MONTEGO BAY AND 55 MILES NORTH OF KINGSTON, WAS THE SCENE OF ANOTHER DEMONSTRATION BY JOBLESS JAMAICANS SEEKING WORK; EARLY IN THE MONTHE THERE WERE TWO SUCH OUTBURSTS IN MONTEGO BAY (SEE REFTEL). ON THIS OCCASION, THE GOVERNMENT ADVERTISED JOBS FOR 16 PERSONS AND 500 ASPIRANTS APPEARED ON THE APPOINTED DAY. THE DISAPPOINTED CROWD RESPONDED BY CLOSING OF THE MAIN COAST ROAD THROUGH ORACABESSA TO ALL TRAFFIC. THE POLICE WERE BROUGHT IN TO MAINTAIN ORDER, ALTHOUGH THEY APPARENTLY DID NOT ATTEMPT TO REOPEN THE ROAD. THE CROWD FINALLY DISPERSED SOME HOURS LATER WHEN THE GOVERNMENT WITHDREW THE OFFER OF 16 JOBS AND PROMISED THAT IT WOULD TRY TO IDENTIFY JOBS FOR THE 500.

2. COMMENT: WITH THE DECLINE IN TOURISM, THE NORTH COAST IS PARTICULARLY PLAGUED BY UNEMPLOYMENT. THIS CONFIDENTIAL

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MOST RECENT EXAMPLE OF UNREST MAY NOW FORCE THE GOVERNMENT TO PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THIS PART OF JAMAICA EVEN THOUGH IT MAY HAVE TO FALL BACK ON FUNDS INTENDED TO KEEP THE LID ON KINGSTON. WE UNDERSTAND THAT HOTEL BOOKINGS ALONG THE NORTH COAST ARE ON THE UPSWING. IF THEY RESULT IN ACTUAL TOURIST VISITS, THEN THE UNREST OBSERVED IN MONTEGO BAY AND

ORACABESSA SHOULD DIMINISH. BUT THERE USUALLY IS A CONSIDERABLE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BOOKINGS AND OCCUPANCY.
IRVING

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Disposition Event:
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Subject: ANOTHER OUTBURST BY NORTH COAST JOBLESS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, PDEV, ELAB, JM

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